

Republican Valley Library System



VALLEYTALK

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AND HERE IT IS OCTOBER

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We reserve the right to
edit or refuse
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Doesn't time fly when we're having fun? It was only yesterday that I wrote a column for the newsletter and already Kay is asking me to do another. I suppose it is related to the phenomena of birthdays, anniversaries and holidays passing in the blink of an eye.

The same strange thing happens here at the library – or at least a closely related one: in the space of being open for five hours librarians shift their hats, ages, talents, personalities and abilities faster than any superhero.

Upon unlocking the front door I first helped a special needs patron waiting on the step log on to the public access computer and admired and help delete the large number of e-mails received. Then explained the time allotted to computer users to the next three patrons waiting in line for the TWO computers available here. Answering the telephone for a quick question or two, and checking the voice mail I then tried to open the day's mail and e-mail. Of course, this is all done while tending the circulation desk.

At 2:30 the unexpected pleasure of hosting a group of *Red Hatters* from surrounding communities added to the joy of the day. They just thought it would be fun to show off the local library to the visitors. Another public relations success!

After their departure, the 94 year old volunteer was disappointed to learn that no newspaper files were ready to be indexed but was anxious to share the latest genealogical news from

her family. She was followed by the 3 and 6 year olds with Mom looking for advice on easy readers.

"Could you use these old books I found in the cupboard?" Well, that's not an unusual question to get at the desk so I went for my standard answer and moved on to admire the brand new baby and renew the student's book report books and finally check the bookdrop.

Oh my gosh, it's going on 6:00 p.m. and I haven't finished the book order, gotten out all the Halloween books, totaled the September statistics, shelved any of today's returns. . . Multitasking is a buzzword of the past decade or so, but librarians have been doing it for years.

And the next thing you know, it's going to be December or January and I'll still be juggling the same as most of you.



Judy Grandstaff
RVLS Board President

Want to Earn Some C.E. Credits???

Laura Johnson, Continuing Education coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission states that she “has posted information on a number of library-related Webinars coming up.”

Some of the titles that will be presented in October and November are:

Get Your Game On

10/16 1-1:30 P.M. (CT) (MaintainIT Cookbook Webinar)
Join Lori Reed for "Get Your Game On: Quick Tips to Start a Gaming Program in Your Library". Lori is Employee Learning Coordinator at the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg, will lead this fast-paced and interactive session introducing the idea of gaming programs in libraries. For more information and to register for this program, visit: <http://evanced.info/webjunction/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>

Refugees 101

10/23 1-2 P.M. (CT) WebJunction
Join Valerie Wonder, Immigrant & Refugee Programs Manager at Seattle Public Library (WA) and Homa Naficy Manager of Multicultural Education and Outreach Services at Hartford Public Library (CT) will highlight some successful approaches to serving refugees in public libraries. For more information and to register for this program, visit: <http://evanced.info/webjunction/evanced/eventcalendar.asp>

Cooperation for the Collection: Integrating ILL and Acquisitions Workflows

10/ 24 3-4:30 P.M. (CT) BCR

As budgets get tighter and users more savvy, many libraries are blurring the line between resource sharing and collection development by purchasing items requested on interlibrary loan rather than requesting them through traditional resource sharing models. For more information and to register for this program, visit: <http://www.bcr.org/training/schedule/programdetail.php?programid=272>

"Challenging the Assumptions of Legacy Librarianship" with Joan Frye Williams and George Needham

11/19 10:00-11:00 A.M. OPAL

Library consultant Joan Frye Williams and OCLC Vice-President George Needham will take a humorous, no-holds-barred look at recent data that challenge traditional library thinking, and will offer some surprising suggestions for re-imagining the library. Participants will learn about:

- The most recent OCLC-commissioned research findings about social networking and library advocacy.
- Suggestions about which library services align well with emerging customer requirements, and which services might need to be discontinued or changed.
- Successful new service models, with practical implementation tips.

For more information and to register for this program, visit: <http://www.opal-online.org/progschnono.htm>

To see more info on the programs go to the Nebraska Library Commission Blog, specifically the post at: http://www.nlc.stat.ne.us/blogs/NLC/2008/09/free_cein-the-comfort_of_your.html



2008 WiFi Connectivity Grants Awarded

The Nebraska Library Commission announced that 48 Nebraska public libraries have been awarded WiFi Connectivity Grants funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Each library will be receiving a Linksys WiFi Router and a Dell laptop or Samsung Q1 Ultra UMPC. Eleven of the grants went to RVLS libraries.



- Auld Public Library, Red Cloud
- Butler Memorial Library, Cambridge
- C.B. Preston Memorial Library, Orleans
- Clay Center Public Library, Clay Center
- Faith Memorial Library, Wallace
- Harvard Public Library, Harvard
- Klyte Burt Memorial Library, Curtis
- Leid Imperial Library, Imperial
- Nelson Public Library, Nelson
- North Platte Public Library, North Platte
- Trenton Public Library, Trenton



RVLS NEWS

Terri Johnson of the North Platte Public Library was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the NLA Paraprofessional group and **Carol Eshleman** is the NLA Chair-Elect of the School Children's and Young People's Section for the coming year. Election results are published on the NLA website (www.nebraskalibraries.org)



Carol Schell reports from **Trenton Public Library** "We are still up to our ears in renovation here in Trenton. We had kids from McCook Work Ethic Camp here painting the walls and ceiling. I've been up on scaffolding painting crown molding around 11 ft. high ceilings. Our new shelving is coming in toward the end of October, but the "the forces that be" are far behind on getting the floor and north wall ready for the furniture...lots of stress. I'm also probably going to be the one installing the new sun-blocking mesh window shades. (Probably a good thing I've watched years and years of "This Old House" on PBS.) Don't know when it will be finished, but want to get all the books out of storage before winter.

When I'm up on the scaffolding painting, I yell at patrons to stamp their own books and leave the cards on the counter...has worked out well so far. Thank God for understanding patrons and a proactive Library Board."



Susan Franklin, Hastings College Perkins Library, was selected to participate in the American Library Association's Emerging Leaders 2009 program. According to ALA, "The program is designed to enable more than 100 new librarians to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Participants are given the opportunity to work on a variety of projects, network with peers and get an inside look into ALA structure and activities." The Emerging Leaders will meet at ALA's Midwinter Conference in Denver in January and at Annual Conference in Chicago in June. Lori Brezina and Many Shorr, both of Omaha Public Library, were also selected as emerging leaders.

Clay Center Public Library made \$900.75 on their annual book and bake sale.

Clay Center Public Library is also one of the blessed who will soon receive the wireless internet services from the grant put out by the Gates foundation.

.....Reported by **Cheryl Green**

Elwood Public Library along with the Elwood Foundation sponsored a WW II traveling bus/museum on October 9th.

Hastings Public Library will be having a Scholastic 1/2 Price Sale at the library on December 2, 3 & 4th from 9 am to 9 pm. This will be a good time to do some Christmas Shopping!!!

Linda Trone is the new Library Media Specialist for **Elwood Public Schools**.

Linda was the LMS at Winnebago Public Schools (ESU 1) last year and is taking her final course this fall at University of Nebraska-Omaha for her Master's degree and full endorsement in School Library Media.

Tony Anderson, RVLS Board Member from Alma was one of 24 individuals across the state of Nebraska, picked for the 2008-2010 Nebraska LEAD Group XXVIII. Nebraska Lead (Leadership Education/Action Development) program is a premier two-year agricultural leadership development program. LEAD's goal is to develop problem solvers, decision makers and spokespersons for agriculture and Nebraska. The program will begin in September. The Fellows will participate in 12 monthly three-day seminars, and a 10-day national study/travel seminar and a two-to-three week international study/travel seminar. Congratulations! Tony.

Terri Eberly is the new assistant at Auld Public Library in Red Cloud. She replaces Teresa Young who took a full-time job. Welcome, Terri, we hope you are enjoying your new job.



Ellison On the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

October 15, 2008: St. Cecelia High School, Hastings—Marilyn Zysset

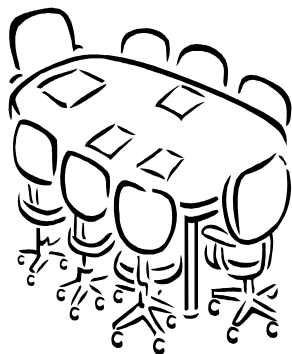
November 15, 2008: Clay Center Public Library, Clay Center—Cheryl Green

March 15, 2009: Wallace Public School—Deb Jameson



Check out the RVLS' newest
Audiobooks and Booksets (page 6).

2008-2009 RVLS Board Meetings



Friday, November 7, 2008—North Platte Public Library,
North Platte

Friday, January 9, 2009—Superior Public Library,
Superior

Friday, March 6, 2009—Butler Memorial Library,
Cambridge

Friday, June 5, 2009—Annual Meeting,
Location to be determined

President -Judy Grandstaff

Vice-President -Patty Hall

Secretary -Suzann Christensen

Members: Tony Anderson

Pat Bonge Vicki Casper

Laura Cundiff Beth Falla

Jane Hilton Terri Johnson

Sylvia Person Nancy Sherwood

All meetings begin at 10 am.

Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed!



It's Your Move

The Basic Skills: Public Library Administration Course will be offered this fall in Elkhorn, Gering, Gibbon, Norfolk, North Platte, Seward.

Public Library Administration is open to all staffers in Nebraska Libraries.

The course covers library governance, management, marketing, planning, and policies and procedures. It is one of the four [Basic Skills](#) requirements for Nebraska Certification of Librarians.

The Basic Skills courses are sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission and Nebraska's Regional Library Systems.

The course fee is \$ 35.00. Participants who successfully complete the course will earn 6.25 C.E. credit hours.

Questions?? Contact: Laura Johnson of the Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120 Lincoln, NE 68508-2023. (402) 471-2694, F: (402) 471-2083, ljohnson@nlc.state.ne.us, www.nlc.state.ne.us

The schedule is

Elkhorn—10/30, 11/6, 11/13

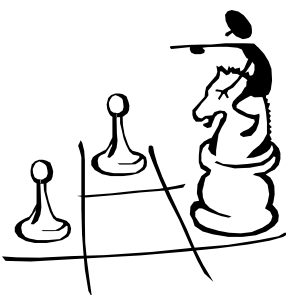
Gering—11/10, 11/17, 11/24

Gibbon—10/24, 10/31, 11/7

Norfolk—11/18, 11/25, 12/2

North Platte—10/30, 11/6, 11/13

Seward—12/3, 12/10, 12/17



Patti Sinclair, editor of the Summer Reading Program Manuals is asking for ideas for the 2010 manual for children. Here are the working chapter titles with program ideas that have been suggested.

Please look at the list below and share any ideas you have that other librarians would love to hear about.

Make a Splash @Your Library 2010 Collaborative Summer Library Program

Chapter 1. Planning

Chapter 2. Promotion

Chapter 3. WOW (Wonders of Water)

Water science: experiments with water, ice, dry ice

Weather: storms

Arctic and Antarctica

Where does water come from/go: sewers, dams, canals

Conserving water

"Just Add Water": program on making food, growing things

"Brain Freeze": way to make ice cream and other cool treats

Chapter 4. An Ocean of Fun

Sea creatures: whales, sharks, dolphins, octopus, seahorses, etc.

Sea serpent party

Lighthouses

Mermaids

Puppet Play: Biggest Fish in the Sea

Puppet Play: Little Red Parrotfish

Chapter 5. High Seas Shenanigans

Pirates

Boats and Ships

Ocean myths and legends

Treasure Chests

Shipwrecks

Underwater Exploration

Submarines

Coral Reef Adventure

Shackleton, Voyage of the Beagle

(Darwin), other famous voyages

Puppet Play: Jacques and the Seaweed

Chapter 6. Splish, Splash Summer

Bubbles

Beaches: sandcastles, beachcombing, luau, seashells

Bathtime

Pets in Water: goldfish

Puddles and mud

On the Boardwalk: On the pier

Water Games

Toe Dip: Try something new this summer

Decorate your flip-flops

Pool Party, Beach Party, Water Carnival

Chapter 7. Squish, Squash Summer:

Lake life, river rats, and wetlands-

Wetlands (leave it to beavers, swamp thing, salt marsh)

Rivers and river life—Amazon, Nile, Mississippi, Local rivers

Creatures that live in these areas: Frogs, toads, turtles, alligators, hippos

Water birds

Fish and fishing, fly tying

Water Sports?: sailing, sail-boarding, canoeing, kayaking

Water Safety

Chapter 8. Adult Programming for Make a Splash

Any ideas for programs related to water, water activities, water issues (environment, conservation) are welcome.

Send your ideas to:

Patti Sinclair

306 Virginia Terrace

Madison, WI 53726

trishsinclair@sbcglobal.net

Deadline for ideas:

December 1st, 2008

On the Bookshelf



The following items have been recently added to the RVLS Professional Collection:

Books on CD

- ***The Brief Wonderous Life of Oscar Wao*** by Junot Diaz (Includes ***DROWN***)
- ***Elijah of Buxton*** by Christopher Paul Curtis

Booksets

- ***Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam*** by Cynthia Kadohata (20 copies)
- ***Jazz*** by Walter Dean Myers (20 copies)
- ***Rules*** by Cynthia Lord (20 copies)



Booksets Available from RVLS

Title	Author	# Copies	Grade Level	Audio-Book
The Book Thief	Marcus Zusack	20	9th-Adult	Yes
City of Ember	Jeanne DuPrau	20	5th-8th	Yes
Crazy Horse	Mari Sandoz	18	Adult	No
Eagle Blue	Michael D'orso	20	10th—Adult	No
Elijah of Buxton	Christopher Paul Curtis	20	3rd—7th	Yes
Esperanza Rising	Pam Munoz Ryan	20	4th—9th	Yes
Hattie Big Sky	Kirby Larson	20	7th—12th	Yes
Heat	Mike Lipica	20	4th—7th	Yes
Holes	Louis Sachar	20	5th—9th	Yes
My Dog May Be a Genius (poetry)	Jack Prelutsky	20	K—5th	No
One False Move	Alex Kava	12	Adult	No
Re-Gifters	Mike Carey	16	7th—12th	No
Rescue Josh McGuire	Ben Mikaelson	15	4th-6th	No
Restoring the Burnt Child	William Kloefkorn	10	Adult	Yes
Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie	David Lubar	20	7th—12th	Yes
Stranded	Ben Mikaelson	20	4th-6th	No
Touching Spirit Bear	Ben Mikaelson	17	5th—8th	No

Banned Books Week 2008

Hastings College Perkins Library and Sigma Tau Delta, honorary English society, co-celebrated Banned Books Week 2008 by holding an edible books event on September 29 at noon.

Participants gathered on the library's porch at noon to consume "A Moveable Feast" of cooked and baked dishes that resembled the covers of banned books, conveyed in some way the content of banned books, or cleverly played with the words in banned books titles.

Approximately 45 participants—the largest attendance ever!—dined on sixteen tasty creations, ranging from shell pasta salad (*Brighton Beach Memoirs*); a smorgasbord of grapes, violet gumdrops, eggplant, purple M&Ms and jelly beans for *A Color Purple*; an artfully wrought cake reproduction of the famous *The Great Gatsby* cover (pictured); and a cake depiction of *The Bridge to Terabithia*, complete with a blue jello river and a licorice bridge.



While devouring the banned books, members of the group took turns reading aloud from banned books. No one had the heart to mar the work of art that was *The Great Gatsby* by cutting it, so the cake was put on a 24-hour silent auction, which netted \$30 for Sigma Tau Delta and benefited the Introduction to Literature class that was lucky to share it in class.

"Our celebration took Sir Francis Bacon's famous words quite literally: "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested."

Contributed by Susan Franklin

RVLS Calendar



October - 2008

13—Columbus Day

15-17—NLA/NEMA Annual Conference, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, NE

17-18— Nebraska Center for the Book Literature Festival, Downtown Lincoln

30—Basic Skills Class, North Platte Public Library

November 2008

2— Daylight Savings Time Ends

6—Basic Skills Class, North Platte Public Library

10-16—Money Smart Week

11—Veteran's Day



13—Basic Skills Class, North Platte Public Library

27-28—Thanksgiving Holiday



RVLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to \$100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.

Only one scholarship per person per fiscal year

All member libraries eligible

Name _____

Library _____

Event _____

Date of event _____

Scholarship requested for _____ (meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested _____

Other information:

Send to: RVLS
2727 W. 2nd # 233
Hastings, NE 68901



An Endurance Athlete

By Cathy Mohnike



I say with pride that I am part of an elite group of endurance athletes. I am a marathoner.

Okay, so it's movie marathons but hey, that's not as easy as it sounds. I have my own MM (movie marathon) training rules that I have carefully honed over the years. I now share these with you so you don't have to reinvent the wheel or reel as it would be in this case.

Rule # 1: Try to start your day with some type of physical exercise. You will be sitting for an extended period of time and the blood tends to pool in your feet after six hours of parking on theater seats.

Rule # 2: Arrange your movies times carefully.

Sub-rule A: Arrange the movies time-wise so that you can leave movie #1 and sprint to movie #2 arriving a mere minute or two before the lights go down.

Sub-rule B: See the serious/depressing/heavy movies first. Always end the MM event with light-hearted fare. A bona fide chick flick is best. (I have ignored this rule resulting in returning home with my endorphins at a depressingly low level.)

Sub-rule C: Arrange your times so that you will be able to squeeze in a supper run between movies # 2 and 3.

Now, for the ever important food aspect of a MM day. It is a must to pace yourself. It will not do to clog your arteries at the very first movie. It's only 1:00 in the afternoon for heaven's sake. Your first movie is the time for a small pop. You will need the caffeine – trust me. The 2nd movie is the time for a small popcorn and another blast of caffeine. You want the popcorn to stave off your hunger while waiting for the scheduled supper break. For supper you will have to eat on the run. Select your restaurant and your food choices wisely. You don't want anything too heavy causing sluggish behavior, like napping, during movie #3. I recommend a buffet of some sort, ex. – Valentino's pasta and pizza buffet. Move quickly through the line. Dodge around those people who are dawdling with their salad selection, dart directly to the pizza tins and scoop up your favorites. That is key, people! Like all marathons time is the deciding factor here. Dash down that pizza with another pop and continue quickly on to movie #3.

Like another famous endurance athlete, Lance Armstrong, I have pushed myself to the very limits of my sport. When three movies became too easy I was not content to rest on my laurels. I pushed myself to four. Yikes! Even I only tried that feat of incredible movie endurance once. After the 4th movie I couldn't remember the names of the other three movies I had seen that day. In fact I barely remembered what daylight looked like.

The cool-down period is a key aspect of this grueling sport. Friends, family and co-workers expect me to "thumbs-up" or "thumbs-down" the movies I have seen. I find that the 70-mile drive home from Lincoln is a good time for me to reflect on what I had seen that was worth recommending. This puts tremendous pressure on me to stay at the top of my game but I feel I owe it to my fans. I do not take that movie critic role-model stuff lightly.

The preceding MM explanation gives you a good idea why I picked the memoir, "The Film Club", by David Gilmour to share a few thoughts on this month. Gilmour's memoir is about his experience after he told his high school son that he could drop out of school. He didn't have to work. He could sleep as late as he wanted. There were only two things required. He couldn't spend his extra time doing drugs and he had to watch three movies a week with his dad. Without hesitation his son took him up on the deal. Well, duh!

(Continued on Page 10)

An Endurance Athlete.....by Cathy Mohnike continued from page 9

Gilmour decided to group the movies by themes with interesting titles such as Horror Festival, Buried Treasures, Guilty Pleasures, and Stillness Unit. As a MM, I've seen a lot of movies and have definite opinions about them. It was fun to go up against another movie fan and compare. This guy liked **"Ishtar"**! Yuck! But he was dead-on about Clint Eastwood being the master of stillness in movies. I was initially surprised that out of the 117 movies that Gilmour and his son watched I've only seen 34 of them. On further thought maybe it's not so surprising. He's a guy – I'm not. His list had horror films – I don't watch them – too chicken. He had titles like **"Robo Cop"**, **"Full Metal Jacket"**, **"Rocky III"** – not interested. I'm a chick so where were the chick flicks? Oh, yeah, this is a guy memoir. Sorry!

A fun part of this memoir for me was reading why he selected certain movies. His explanations inspired me to add some of his choices to my list of movies I want to see. **"True Romance"** with Dennis Hopper and Christopher Walken that Gilmour picks as having *"the best stand-alone scene in film"* or **"The Late Show"**, *"...a simple thriller about a broken-down private detective (Art Carney) and a daffy young psychic (Lily Tomlin) who get caught up in a string of murders in Los Angeles."* There is also **"The Last Detail"** which he picks as *"...Nicholson's finest performance, ever..."* But when he pointed out that the f-word is used 342 times in the first seven minutes I decided I may need more training for that one or earplugs.

So...if you have a teenage son or you like movies or you like memoirs pick up David Gilmour's, **"The Film Club"** for an entertaining back-to-school or in his son's case a not-back-to-school read.



Linda Rea— Hastings Public Library Director Retires



After nearly 30 years as HPL's library director, Linda Rea will begin a new chapter in her life when she retires on October 22.

Linda came to Hastings from South Dakota in 1976 with her husband, Alan, and two children, Michelle and Jay. She began her public library career here as assistant director and three years later was named director.

Linda saw the library through some of the most serious challenges in its 105-year history - budget cuts and increasing space constraints. She frequently put her grant-writing skills to work, collecting more than \$500,000 that helped the library keep up with rapid technological advances. Over the last 33 years, books became available in new formats - large print, tapes, compact discs, playaways and downloadable audio files.

Music was added - records and eventually, tapes and CDs. Videotapes and DVDs evolved from filmstrips. Manual typewriters, a paper card catalog and hand-stamped checkouts gave way to computers, an electronic catalog and most recently, an automated self-checkout option. But at Linda's insistence, the conveniences of technology would not come at a cost of sacrificing customer-oriented personal service. HPL never failed to continue to receive accolades for its excellent customer service, both in our community and beyond by achieving the distinction of being the state's #1-rated non-academic interlibrary lender. Linda increased the library's collection from 93,000 items in 1978 to more than 164,000 in 2008. Circulation rose nearly 20%.....Of all these achievements, Linda will say she is most proud of securing the grants that helped to get the Hastings Literacy program on its feet in the 1980s. "After all, that's what a library is all about - literacy and helping people read," Linda said.

Linda also initiated the organization of our Friends of the Library in 1984. Through the years, Friends grew from six ladies to more than 500 members who support the library with volunteers and funding.

We congratulate Linda on her 33 years of service, important contributions and dedication to the library and the community

submitted by Felicia Cogley, HPL

**Our Library Director, Linda Rea,
Is Retiring October 22, 2008**

**Please Join Library Staff and Friends
In Celebrating Her 33 Years of Service**

**Open House Reception 3-6 p.m.
Wednesday , October 22, 2008**

At Hastings Public Library

Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting**10:00 a.m. September 19, 2008****Hastings Middle School 201 North Marian Road Hastings NE 68901**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tony Anderson, Vicki Casper, Suzann Christensen, Laura Cundiff, Beth Falla, Judy Grandstaff, Patty Hall, Jane Hilton, Terri Johnson

ABSENT: Pat Bonge, Sylvia Person, Nancy Sherwood

OTHERS PRESENT: Kay Kloppenborg (Administrative Assistant), Mary Nelson (Nebraska Library Commissioner) and Decker Shestak (Laura's grandson)

PRIOR TO THE MEETING: The board wishes to thank Hastings Middle School Principal Jeff Schneider for giving a tour of the new building. The secretary wishes to thank her mother, Dorothy Duerfeldt, for baking luncheon desserts. Not one but TWO copies of **The Book of Spam** were available for persons to peruse.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS: President Judy Grandstaff called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m. Following Judy's story about somehow bringing all the gas pumps in Blue Hill to a screeching halt (while using RVLS's credit card), introductions were made and new board members were welcomed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2008 meetings was made by Tony Anderson and seconded by Patty Hall. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Judy explained the reports and an Edward Jones update was handed out. Cash assets are readily available and we are doing well for the end of this fiscal year. Mary Nelson reported that the Nebraska Library Commission has submitted a prioritized biennial budget to the legislature. At the request of the Commissioners, the Systems are ranked higher this year. NLC's budget requests are not increasing except for an additional \$66,000 to fund new Library of Congress digital technology for the visually impaired. Mary encouraged us to contact our senators to support this project. Judy reported that the auditor visited RVLS on 9-10-08 and all appears to be going well. Following questions, the financial reports were filed for audit.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no correspondence.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: *[A detailed copy of the administrator's report is in each board member's packet.]* Judy shared a statistical report and thanked Kay Kloppenborg for her assistance in the absence of an administrator. Judy attended the quarterly system administrators' meeting in Ralston on Monday, September 15. Topics of discussion were the regional systems' contracts, the Nebraska Community Foundation Project, NLC's 2009-2011 budget requests, the Open Source project, Basic Skills, and an NLC-sponsored presenter for the summer reading program. Two RVLS libraries (Bartlett and Wilsonville) received connectivity grants and Wi-Fi grants were awarded to eight RVLS libraries. Judy will (with some reluctance) send them a congratulatory letter. *[Insert a J.G. quote here about Blue Hill Public Library being "the only hot spot in town".]*

OLD BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATIVE SEARCH: There are two applicants for the position, from Lincoln NE and Laramie WY. Judy is in the process of contacting references and then the search committee will conduct phone (and possibly personal) interviews. Discussion about the applicants was held. Judy shared information about a former system administrator and the possible implications of that information. Terri Johnson mentioned Skype as a means of conducting an online interview.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: The committee needs two new members. Volunteers were Patty Hall and Jane Hilton. Two applicants submitted requests to attend NLA/NEMA. Terri Johnson explained scholarship's guidelines. The board agreed to grant both requests.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: A motion was made by Patty Hall and seconded by Jane Hilton to keep the same officers. Motion carried. Officers are President Judy "I will NOT do this another year!!" Grandstaff, Vice-President Patty Hall and Secretary Suzann Christensen.

OFFICIAL POSITION TITLE: "SYSTEM DIRECTOR": A motion to change the official position title for Republican Valley Library System from System Administrator to System Director was made by Patty Hall and seconded by Terri Johnson. Motion carried. This should alleviate confusion about what the job entails. Mary says that the new title carries a connotation of leadership and authority.

JOINT WORKSHOP(S) WITH MEREDIAN/COMPUTER: There will be two and possibly three joint workshops with Meridian. Teresa Dickson's topic will be services to seniors (two locations, sometime in December). Scott Childers, UNL, will present two computer workshops in February (dates to be announced). A grant was written by Sharon Osenga to underwrite part of the expenses. RVLS's share will be \$250 - \$500. Patty Hall inquired about a workshop on policy or library law. She wishes to know about the legalities of signed policies when the signer refuses to comply.

MAKE'N'TAKE 2009 LOCATION: There is a possibility of a joint workshop with Meridian. Judy asked for volunteers to host the workshops. Possibilities are Holdrege and Elwood. The board feels that there will be better attendance if two workshops are offered. Discussion was tabled until the November meeting when location and date decisions will be made.

[11:50 a.m. Lunch break/continuing Open Source discussion]

REPORT ON FUTURE SEARCH CONFERENCE (MARY NELSON): Mary's new title is Nebraska Library Commissioners Chairperson. Congratulations, Mary – you are a wonderful advocate for all types of libraries and especially for the Republican Valley Library System. Thank you for all you do on our behalf!

Mary shared materials from the Gates Foundation entitled Keeping Your Community Connected. She reported on Keith Lance's Return on Investment Training (August 2008). The Future Search Conference allowed participants to share missions/visions about the future of libraries and what values will be most important.

NLA CONFERENCE EXPENSES: Judy is spending an increasing amount of time dealing with RVLS matters and expressed concern regarding that. Board members provided suggestions and offers of help. Judy's responsibilities at NLA/NEMA will be pre-conference and the System booth. A motion was made by Tony Anderson and seconded by Jane Hilton that RVLS pay \$300 toward Judy Grandstaff's NLA/NEMA expenses. Motion carried, roll call vote. (Voting YES: Anderson, Casper, Christensen, Cundiff, Falla, Hall, Hilton, Johnson AB-STAINING: Grandstaff)

Patty Hall shared her experiences with a summer intern.

Terri Johnson put in a plug for the leadership conference and offered to assist with maintaining RVLS's web site. Judy said that NLC may begin using Plinkit.

<http://www.plinkit.org/> "Plinkit is the web authoring environment that public libraries in partner states use to create smart, new web sites for their patrons. Plinkit stands for 'Public Library Interface Kit'. It's also a fun word to say. Plinkit is built using [Plone](#), an open-source content management system."

NEXT BOARD MEETING: The next meeting will be held Friday, November 7 at the North Platte Public Library.

Meeting adjourned, 1:08 p.m.

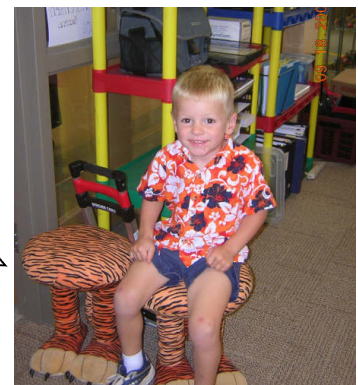
Signed Suzann Christensen, Recording Secretary



Board Members L-R: Vicki Casper, Judy Grandstaff, Tony Anderson, Patty Hall, Jane Hilton, Suzann Christensen, Laura Cundiff and Terri Johnson pose for picture in the Library at Hastings Middle School.



Hastings Middle School Principal, Jeff Schneider gives a tour of the new facility to Board Members Terri Johnson, Jane Hilton and Judy Grandstaff.



Guest, Decker Shestak grandson of Laura Cundiff, enjoys the tour of the new Hastings Middle School.



COPYRIGHT CONCERNS

By Phyllis Brunken

Copyright Law—Part 5

This article is the five of a six-part series on copyright for educators and public librarians.

Part V – Guidelines

In the copyright law, the amount that cannot be legally used is stated “more than small amount”. No specific percentages, number of pages, or amount of time are in the copyright law. However, guidelines (which are not law) have been developed through case law. The Nebraska Library Commission Copyright Handbook (http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/docs/pilot/pubs/copyright_hndbk.pdf) has an abbreviated list:

Text -- 10% or 1000 words whichever is less

Music -- 10% or 30 seconds whichever is less

Video -- 10% or 3 minutes whichever is less

Illustrations/Photos -- Entire work – no more than 5 by one artist

Numerical Data -- 10% or 2500 fields whichever is less

These guidelines apply when an educator is preparing instructional materials for use with their students. The public librarian can also use these guidelines when preparing materials to be used with patrons. Be sure to cite any materials that are used. Remember, if Fair Use cannot be applied, permission may be requested from the copyright holder to use the material.

Hall Davidson’s Copyright Chart summarizes the guidelines for teachers in a reproducible chart.
<http://www.halldavidson.net/chartshort.html>

For a excellent overview of guidelines for fair use check out the Fair Use Guidelines for Educational Multimedia

(<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/mla/Guidelines/Other%20Guidelines/Fair%20Use%20for%20Multimedia.aspx>) developed by the Music Library Association along with over 50 agencies and associations that included the American Library Association, U. S. Copyright Office, Recording Industry Association of America, and the National Educational Association

Please send an email to me if you want a complete bibliography of my recommended copyright law resources or have a copyright law question. Phyllis Brunken pbrunken@cox.net I am not an attorney and this article may not be substituted for formal legal advice from an attorney well versed in school law and copyright law.

Signed....Phyllis Brunken

2009—2010 Nebraska Golden Sower Award Nominee Titles

Sponsored by Nebraska Library Association's School, Children's, and Young People's Section

Primary Nominees

- ***DOGKU*** By Andrew Clements, illustrated by Tim Bowers
- ***ON MEADOWVIEW STREET*** by Henry Cole, illustrated by author
- ***THE PERFECT NEST*** by Catherine Friend, illustrated by John Manders
- ***WOOLBUR*** by Leslie Helakoski, illustrated by Lee Harper
- ***BADGER'S FANCY MEAL*** by Keiko Kasza, illustrated by author
- ***THE GREAT TEXAS HAMSTER DRIVE: AN ORIGINAL TALL TALE*** by Eric A. Kimmel,
illustrated by Bruce Whatley.
- ***HENRY'S FREEDOM BOX*** by Ellen Levine, illustrated by Kadir Nelson.
- ***THE ORANGE SHOES*** by Trinka Hakes Noble, illustrated by Doris Ettlinger
- ***MAMA, I'LL GIVE YOU THE WORLD*** by Roni Schotter, illustrated by Susan Saelig Gallagher
- ***THE SECRET SCIENCE PROJECT THAT ALMOST ATE THE SCHOOL*** by Judy Sierra,
illustrated by Stephen Gammell

Intermediate Nominees

- ***THE LEMONADE WAR*** by Jacqueline Davies
- ***ELEVEN*** by Patricail Reilly Giff
- ***THE ROAD TO PARIS*** by Nikki Grimes
- ***THE HOMEWORK MACHINE*** by Dan Gutman
- ***DEEP AND DARK AND DANGEROUS: A GHOST STORY*** by Mary Downing Hahn
- ***SHEEP*** by Valerie Hobbs
- ***HOW TO STEAL A DOG*** by Barbara O'Connor
- ***ON THE WINGS OF HEROES*** by Richard Peck
- ***THE MYSTERIOUS BENEDICT SOCIETY*** by Trenton Lee Stewart
- ***THE AURORA COUNTY ALL-STARS*** by Deborah Wiles

Young Adult Nominees

- ***SHARK GIRL*** by Kelly L. Bingham
- ***DIAMONDS IN THE SHADOW*** by Caroline B. Cooney
- ***CRACKER!: THE BEST DOG IN VIETNAM*** by Cynthia Kadohata
- ***RED GLASS*** by Laura Resau
- ***NIGHT OF THE HOWLING DOGS*** by Graham Salisbury
- ***THE WEDNESDAY WARS*** by Gary D. Schmidt
- ***PEAK*** by Roland Smith
- ***THE SHADOW THIEVES*** by Anne Ursu
- ***RED MOON AT SHARPSBURG*** by Rosemary Wells
- ***THE RULES OF SURVIVAL*** by Nancy Werlin



It's time to start learning! The **Nebraska Learns 2.0 program** started Monday, October 6, 2008. The program is made up of 23 short online lessons called Things. The Things are designed to encourage staff to learn more about emerging technologies on the web that are changing the way people, society and libraries access information and communicate with each other.

In addition to learning new Things everyone who completes all 23 Things by January 30, 2009 will have a chance to win one of nine 8GB Creative Zen MP3 Players. These prizes have been made available through generous donations from ITART, NEMA, and NLA. Also everyone who completes the program before the deadline will receive 15 CE credits. More information about prize eligibility and CE credit can be found on the Nebraska Learns 2.0 website.

Here are a few things you may be wondering about.

- You do not need to register. However, to be eligible for prizes and CE credits you do need to blog your progress. Instructions on how to do this will be included in Thing #3 and Thing #4.
- There is no cost to participate.
- ALL Nebraska librarians, library staff, library friends, library board members and school media specialists can participate. (Other folks are welcome to follow along; however, we will not be offering any official technical support nor will you be eligible for the prize drawings or CE credit.)
- This is a self-directed learning program. No in-person classes will be offered.
- Have more questions? Check out the FAQ on the Nebraska Learns 2.0 website.

To start learning go to the Nebraska Learns 2.0 website: <http://l2ne.blogspot.com/2008/09/thing-1-discovery.html>



“We the People” Bookshelf Grant Opportunity

Apply through Jan. 30, 2009 for a collection of 17 titles on the theme “Picturing America”

CHICAGO – The American Library Association’s (ALA) Public Programs Office is pleased to partner with the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for the sixth *We the People* Bookshelf project. Part of the NEH’s *We the People* program, the Bookshelf encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history.

This year’s theme, “Picturing America,” explores the premise that a nation’s literature, as well as its visual art, can be a window on its character, ideals and aspirations. The *We the People* Bookshelf on “Picturing America” will be a literary complement to the NEH’s Picturing AmericaSM program – a free education resource that provides reproductions of 40 pieces of great American art to schools and public libraries to help educators teach American history and culture through our nation’s art (www.PicturingAmerica.neh.gov).

Public and school (K-12) libraries are invited to apply online from Sept. 2, 2008 through Jan. 30, 2009 at <http://publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf>. In spring 2009, NEH and ALA will select 4,000 libraries to receive the 17 books for young readers, plus three works in Spanish translation, as well as bonus materials for readers of all ages. Selected libraries will be required to use the Bookshelf selections in programs for young readers in their communities.

The Bookshelf grants are part of the NEH’s *We the People* program, which aims to encourage and strengthen the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture through libraries, schools, colleges, universities and cultural institutions. NEH plans to offer a *We the People* Bookshelf each year on themes related to ideas and ideals unique to America. Since 2003, NEH and ALA have distributed 9,000 *We the People* Bookshelves to public and school libraries.

The “Picturing America” Bookshelf will feature the following books, selected by the NEH in consultation with members of ALA and the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the ALA:

- **Kindergarten to Grade 3:** “Walt Whitman: Words for America” by Barbara Kerley; “Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez” by Kathleen Krull; “Cosechando esperanza: La historia de César Chávaz” by Kathleen Krull (translated by Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy); “The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow; “Sweet Music in Harlem” by Debbie Taylor
- **Grades 4 to 6:** “The Birchbark House” by Louise Erdrich; “American Tall Tales” by Mary Pope Osborne; “On the Wings of Heroes” by Richard Peck; “Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule” by Harriette Gillem Robinet; “The Captain’s Dog: My Journey with the Lewis and Clark Tribe” by Roland Smith
- **Grades 7 to 8:** “The Life and Death of Crazy Horse” by Russell Freedman; “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” by Washington Irving; “La leyenda de Sleepy Hollow” by Washington Irving (translated by Manual Broncano); “Across America on an Emigrant Train” by Jim Murphy; “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer” by Mark Twain
- **Grades 9 to 12:** “Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation” by Joseph J. Ellis; “Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange” by Elizabeth Partridge; “Travels with Charley in Search of America” by John Steinbeck; “Viajes Con Charley – En Busca de América” by John Steinbeck (translated by José Manuel Álvarez Flórez); “Democracy in America” by Alexis de Tocqueville
- **Bonus:** “Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out” by The National Children’s Book and Literary Alliance; “1776: The Illustrated Edition” by David McCullough

Established in 1992, the ALA Public Programs Office has an exemplary track record of developing library programming initiatives, including the acclaimed reading and discussion series “Let’s Talk About It,” film discussion programs on humanities themes, traveling exhibitions, LIVE! @ your library® and other programs. Recently, it has established the Cultural Communities Fund, an endowment created to help all types of libraries across the country bring communities together through cultural programming (www.ala.org/ccf). For more information about the ALA Public Programs Office, visit www.ala.org/publicprograms.

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports learning in history, literature, philosophy and other areas of the humanities. NEH grants enrich classroom learning, create and preserve knowledge and bring ideas to life through public television, radio, new technologies, exhibitions and programs in libraries, museums and other community places. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at www.neh.gov.



Cemetery Tour

Article Submitted by Terri Johnson, RVLS Board member

On September 21, the North Platte Public Library Foundation held its second annual Cemetery Tour at the North Platte Cemetery. Local actors portrayed some of the infamous characters associated with the "Little Chicago" era in the town's history, a time of corruption and lawlessness that occurred during the teens, 20's and 30's. More than 500 people attended this fundraiser, making it the most successful effort to date.

One of the best known and most scandalous characters of the era was Annie Cook. Her story is recounted by Nellie Snyder Yost in her book, Evil Obsession.

Annie came to North Platte as a plain, but ambitious, farm wife in 1895. Her husband Frank Cook owned 80 acres between Hershey and North Platte. She helped build that farm into a very profitable business, but her greed evolved into an obsession and by 1911 she had also opened a number of brothels in North Platte, and managed to gain control of law enforcement and many members of the governing bodies in the town and county. In 1923, the Lincoln County Courthouse was burned to the ground to get rid of evidence of illegal activity by some of North Platte's most prominent citizens. The fire also destroyed records of tax payments allowing Annie to pick up more distressed property. She obtained the contract for the County Poor Farm where her cruelty caused the deaths of many people including her own daughter. She also virtually enslaved her own younger sister and niece and reigned through terror, blackmail and bribery.



Picture from North Platte Telegraph

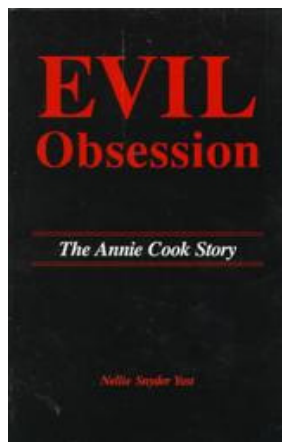
What a great character for a would-be actor to play! It has all the elements of a horror film, but is a true tale with no Hollywood ending. Mild-mannered librarian, Carolyn Clark, showed her dark side in the guise of Annie Cook. This was her second appearance as the embodiment of evil and avarice. There are rumors that she will be sent out to help collect overdue.



Publicity photo from the North Platte Bulletin

To find out more about Annie Cook, check out Evil Obsession.

By Nellie Snyder Yost



Carolyn Clark at the cemetery doing her talk.





Serving Counties:

Adams
Chase
Clay
Dundy
Franklin
Frontier
Furnas
Gosper
Harlan
Hayes
Hitchcock
Kearney
Lincoln
Logan
McPherson
Nuckolls
Perkins
Phelps
Red Willow
Webster

Elia Wheeler Wilcox

**“With every deed
you are sowing a
seed, though the
harvest you may
not see.”**

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